
From the Linguistic Surface to the Framing of Extremism. Distributional Methods for Modeling and Visualizing Framing and Semantic Frames

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This contribution introduces a computational approach to framing that follows on from the work of Klein (2018) and Ziem et al. (2018) and ties the framing concept to linguistic theory building on semantic frames. I use Busse's (2012) frame model, which is a synthesis of earlier slot-filler models, including those of Fillmore, Minsky, Barsalou, and Schank & Abelson, and allows to describe the extensive (linguistic) knowledge required to participate in discourses. I would like to demonstrate the potentials of this method by means of analyses I conducted on the discourse of extremism in the years 1999 - 2021 and the framing of individual variants of extremism. In this context, an extremism frame could hold slots for actors, actions or attributions such as *Bernd Höcke*, *demonstrating* or *cruel*. In Busse's model, such an abstracted frame description represents a type frame, while the realizations in individual texts with concrete fillers are called token frames. Following Klein (2018) and Ziem et al. (2018), I conceptualize framing as the potentially strategic realization of a token frame with specific slots and fillers.

In order to show how the framing of individual forms of extremism differs diachronically and between different newspapers, I create sub-corpora for individual time periods and the three newspapers from a large press corpus (1.3 billion tokens) consisting of the online article stock of the newspapers *Taz*, *Spiegel* and *Welt*. By combining the paradigmatic distributional analysis of word embedding clusters with the syntagmatic analysis of collocations, it is possible to create network-like frames for individual time periods and newspapers. It can be shown, for example, that right-wing extremism is still framed as a violent form of extremism in the years 1999-2001, but that this changes after the attacks of September 11, 2001 to a framing that focuses on party-political action and demonstrations, until after the uncovering of the NSU in 2011, the capacity for violence and terrorism comes back into focus.

References: • Busse, D. (2012). *Frame-Semantik. Ein Kompendium*. De Gruyter. • Klein, J. (2018). Frame und Framing. Frametheoretische Konsequenzen aus Praxis und Analyse strategischen politischen Framings. In A. Ziem, L. Inderelst, & D. Wulf (eds.), *Frames interdisziplinär. Modelle, Anwendungsfelder, Methoden*. 289–330. Düsseldorf University Press. • Ziem, A., Pentzold, C., & Fraas, C. (2018). Medien-Frames als semantische Frames: Aspekte ihrer methodischen und analytischen Verschränkung am Beispiel der ‚Snowden-Affäre‘. In A. Ziem, L. Inderelst, & D. Wulf (eds.), *Frames interdisziplinär. Modelle, Anwendungsfelder, Methoden*. 155–182. Düsseldorf University Press.